CLAIMS

Sub G1

1. A method of operation of a printing unit in an offset machine characterised in that the printing unit comprising a doctor blade chamber device is used for lacquer application and as dampening unit for water application.

2. A printing unit for use by a method according to claim 1 in an offset machine comprising means for lacquer application and means for water application, characterised in that the lacquer application means and the water application means are comprised of a unit comprising a doctor blade chamber device and at least a roller for transferring lacquer or water from the doctor blade chamber device to the plate cylinder of the printing unit.

3. A printing unit according to claim 2, characterised in that the lacquer and water application means are based on the use of one and the same doctor blade chamber device.

4. A printing unit according to claim 3, characterised in that the lacquer application means comprises only one transfer roller in the form of a screen roller transferring lacquer directly from the doctor blade chamber device to the plate cylinder.

5. A printing unit according to claim 3, characterised in that the water application means comprises transfer rollers in the form of a screen roller and a rubber roller for transferring water from the doctor blade chamber device to the plate cylinder.

6. A printing unit according to any one of the claims 2-5, characterised in that the doctor blade chamber device/transfer roller unit is displaceably mounted relative to the plate cylinder between an engagement position and an idling position.

7. A printing unit according to any one of the claims 2-6, characterised in that the unit is provided with coupling means adapted to be releaseably connected to cou-

pling means in the offset machine, preferably coupling means for a cleaning unit known per se for the plate cylinder.

8. A printing unit according to any one of the claims 2-7, characterised in that the transfer roller is driven by its own motor, preferably via a motor controlled by tacho signal from the main machine.

9. A printing unit according to any one of the claims 2-8, characterised in that the unit comprising the doctor blade chamber device and at least one roller is replaceably mounted in the offset machine with the existing dampening unit of the offset machine.

10. A printing unit according to any one of the claims 2-9, characterised in that the transfer roller which is in contact with the plate cylinder of the printing unit is mounted in the bearing of the offset machine for a conventional transfer cylinder in a dampening unit, and that the plate cylinder simultaneously is in contact with two units comprising a doctor blade chamber device and transfer rollers for application of lacquer and water, respectively, to the plate cylinder.